

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 65th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND CLAIMS

Call to Order: Chair Llew Jones, on March 22, 2017 at 8:00 AM, in Room 317 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Llew Jones, Chair (R)
Sen. Frederick (Eric) Moore, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Duane Ankney (R)
Sen. Mary Caferro (D)
Sen. Terry Gauthier (R)
Sen. David Howard (R)
Sen. Douglas (Doug) Kary (R)
Sen. Bob Keenan (R)
Sen. Mike Lang (R)
Sen. Mary McNally (D)
Sen. Albert Olszewski (R)
Sen. Mike Phillips (D)
Sen. Jon C. Sesso (D)
Sen. Cary Smith (R)
Sen. Jeffrey W. Welborn (R)
Sen. Lea Whitford (D)

Members Excused:

Sen. Ryan Osmundson (R)
Sen. Cynthia Wolken (D)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Prudence Gildroy, Committee Secretary
Julie Johnson, Legislative Branch
Kris Wilkinson, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 2, 3/17/2017

HEARING ON HB 2

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:00:45 Rep. Nancy Ballance (R), HD 87, opened the hearing on HB 2, General Appropriations Act.

00:04:13 Dan Villa, budget director, Office of Budget and Program Planning

Section E - Education

00:07:33 Rep. Donald Jones, HD 46, opened Section E.

00:17:23 Sen. Howard left the meeting.

Discussion:

00:28:33 Chair Jones

00:29:59 Sen. Phillips

00:30:18 Chair Jones

Proponents:

00:31:08 Clayton Christian, commissioner, Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education (OCHE)

00:35:51 Sen. Caferro left the meeting.

00:38:02 Elsie Arntzen, superintendent of public instruction, Office of Public Education (OPI)

[EXHIBIT\(fcs59a01\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(fcs59a02\)](#)

00:46:05 Peter Donovan, executive director, Board of Public Education

00:47:17 Donna Sorensen, superintendent, Montana School for the Deaf and Blind (MSDB)

00:49:03 Bruce Whittenberg, director, Montana Historical Society

00:52:24 Ray Sevrre, representing himself, MSDB

00:54:10 Jennie Stapp, state librarian, Montana State Library (MSL)

00:56:05 Eric Arzubi, psychiatrist

[EXHIBIT\(fcs59a03\)](#)

01:02:03 Robert Curry, executive director, Montana Digital Academy

01:04:21 Kirk Miller, School Administrators of Montana

01:08:26 Dennis Parman, executive director, Montana Rural Education Association

01:12:01 Marco Ferro, MEA-MFT

01:14:12 Dianne Burke, executive director, Montana Quality Education Coalition

01:15:41 Jane Karas, president, Flathead Community College and representing Dawson Community College and Miles Community College

01:17:19 Bob Gilbert, City of Glendive

01:22:34 Andy Bixler, Montana Associated Students

01:24:23 Bob Vogel, Montana School Boards Association
 01:25:26 Katy Westhoff, Montana Public Interest Research Group
 01:26:44 Dylan Ecord, Associated Students Montana State University
 01:28:15 Michelle Halberg, board member, Montana Council for Administrators of Special Education (MCASE)
 01:33:04 Donna Schmidt, business manager, MSDB
 01:35:27 Nanette Gilbertson, Montana Library Association
 01:36:25 Kristin Han Burgoyne, interim acting executive director, Montana Arts Council

Opponents Testimony: None

Informational Witnesses: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:37:43 Sen. Sesso
 01:38:24 Rep. Jones
 01:39:00 Sen. Sesso
 01:39:25 Rep. Jones
 01:39:50 Sen. Sesso
 01:40:32 Ms. Arntzen, OPI
 01:41:23 Sen. Sesso
 01:41:51 Ms. Arntzen
 01:42:34 Sen. Sesso
 01:43:05 Ms. Stapp, MSL
 01:44:05 Sen. Caferro joined the meeting.
 01:44:36 Rep. Jones
 01:44:49 Rob Miller, Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD)
 01:45:10 Rep. Jones
 01:45:32 Mr. Miller, LFD
 01:46:00 Sen. Caferro
 01:46:40 Mr. Miller
 01:46:50 Sen. Caferro
 01:47:27 Ms. Arntzen
 01:49:04 Sen. Caferro
 01:49:18 Ms. Arntzen
 01:51:10 Sen. Caferro
 01:51:35 Ms. Halberg, MCASE
 01:55:13 Sen. Caferro
 01:55:22 Ms. Halberg
 01:56:28 Sen. Olszewski
 01:56:46 Mr. Christian, OCHE
 01:59:19 Sen. Olszewski
 02:00:43 Mr. Christian
 02:06:04 Sen. Olszewski
 02:06:35 Sen. Moore
 02:08:23 Mr. Christian
 02:10:54 Sen. Moore
 02:11:10 Mr. Christian
 02:12:05 Sen. Phillips

02:12:28	Mr. Christian
02:15:09	Sen. Phillips
02:15:18	Mr. Christian
02:16:08	Sen. Phillips
02:16:50	Ms. Arntzen
02:18:27	Chair Jones
02:19:08	Mr. Christian
02:26:15	Chair Jones
02:26:42	Mr. Christian
02:28:33	Chair Jones
02:28:41	Ms. Schmidt, MSDB
02:29:25	Chair Jones
02:29:29	Ms. Schmidt
02:29:41	Chair Jones
02:29:56	Rep. Jones
02:31:07	Chair Jones
02:31:24	Rep. Jones
02:31:35	Mr. Miller
02:31:46	Chair Jones
02:34:00	Rep. Jones
02:34:05	Chair Jones
02:34:12	Rep. Jones
02:34:17	Chair Jones
02:34:55	Sen. Sesso
02:35:52	Mr. Sevrin, MSDB
02:36:05	Sen. Sesso
02:36:19	Mr. Sevrin
02:36:35	Sen. Sesso
02:37:01	Chair Jones
02:37:52	Sen. Sesso

Closing by Sponsor:

02:38:38	Rep. Jones
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ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 10:38 AM

Prudence Gildroy, Secretary

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Additional Documents

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([fcs59aad.pdf](#))